

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Examiner's Amendment***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel R. Gibson on October 22, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. In claim 17, on the sixth line of the claim, after "a central support rod which" and before "axially arranged", insert the word, -- is --.
- b. In claim 33, on the first line of the claim, after "ground" and before ":", insert the language, -- comprising the steps of --.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claim 17-33 allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the combination of the threaded rod and support rod with each rods' respective coupling means as claimed in combination with the deformable anchoring claws as claimed that are borne from the tube wall at an angle along said tube in the opposite direction to said drive-in direction by way of the application of an axial traction exerted on the central

Art Unit: 3633

support rod in the opposite direction to the drive-in direction and further in combination with the components as stated in claim 1 are neither anticipated nor reasonably suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed August 12, 2008, with respect to the prior art rejections in the non-final rejection mailed May 13, 2008 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 17-27, and 32 have been withdrawn.

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRENT W. HERRING whose telephone number is (571)270-3661. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:00AM-5:30PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian E. Glessner can be reached on (571)272-6847. The fax phone

Art Unit: 3633

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/BWH/

bwh

/Robert J Canfield/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3635